



2023-2024 Impact Report



The DEVELOPMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

DLC
Developmental
Learning Center



www.DLCJAX.org

904-387-0370

4101-1 College Street
Jacksonville, FL 32205

“Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible,
but with God all things are possible.” - Matthew 19:26

Developmental Learning Center



Welcome to this year's Annual Impact Report! As you flip through these pages, we hope you feel the joy, pride, and progress that your support has fueled for the Developmental Learning Center. Together, we've had a year full of triumphs—from inspiring success stories to big wins in our classrooms and community. To DLC's friends, community partners, supporters, and our incredible students and families—you are the heartbeat of everything we do. We invite you to dive in, celebrate with us, and see the amazing things we've accomplished together in 2023-2024 because of each of you. Thank you for being part of this journey with us!

Heather R. Corey
DLC Executive Director



Heather Corey,
DLC Executive Director

As President of the Board of Directors, I extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has supported the mission of the Developmental Learning Center. Thanks to the dedication of our volunteers, generosity of donors, trust of parents, and steadfast encouragement from our community, we have made a profound impact on the lives of countless children with special needs. Seeing our students grow, thrive, and overcome challenges fills us with immense pride and optimism for the future. Your unwavering support empowers us to continue this vital work, and we look forward to building an even brighter path together. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey.

Aaron Noles
DLC Board of Directors, President



Aaron Noles,
DLC Board President



DLC Mission>

The Developmental Learning Center (DLC) [formerly known as DLC Nurse & Learn] provides faith-based year-round high-quality education, nursing care, and therapies to children of all abilities so that children and families have the opportunity to reach their maximum potential.

DLC Overview>

DLC provides childcare services, preschool, VPK, early intervention, PPEC, extended day programs, nursing care, onsite therapy services (physical, occupational and speech), developmental screenings, Bible & educational curriculum, and summer care. We have classrooms for infants 6 weeks - 5-year-olds, including VPK for 4-year-olds. We also have after school-age programs and summer care for youth up to 22 years of age.

DLC 2023-2024 Board Leadership Team



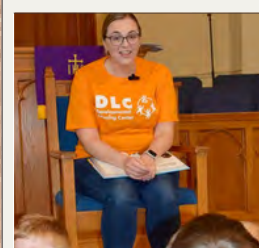
Aaron Noles,
DLC Board President



Terri Thomas,
DLC Board Vice President



Kalynn Franklin,
DLC Board Treasurer



Rev. Haley Eccles,
DLC Board Secretary



Tracy Crissman,
DLC Board Member



Joe Honeycutt,
DLC Board Member



Ellen Light,
DLC Board Member



Allison Sample,
DLC Board Member



Chris Gabbard,
DLC Board Member



Serving Miracles and Hope
to Northeast Florida for
35 years

74
Total Number of
Children Served

261
Total Number of
Goals Set

90,000+
Educational
Classroom Hours

132
Volunteers

90%
Goals Students
Accomplished or
Had Improvement

622
Therapeutic
Hours

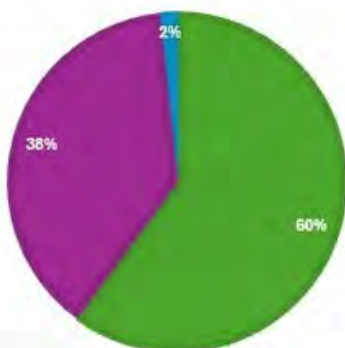
412
Volunteer Hours

**Over
\$40,000**
In Scholarships



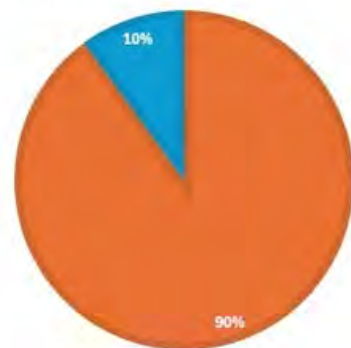
REVENUE

Contributions & Grants Programs & Services Revenue Events



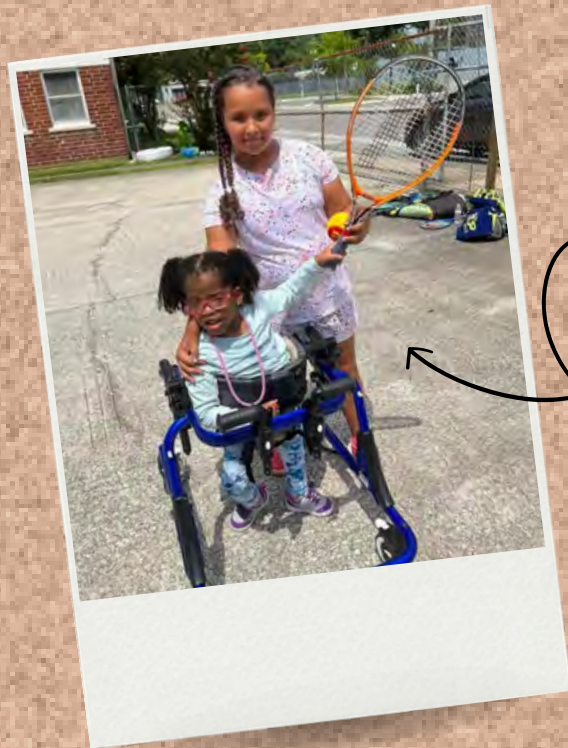
EXPENSES

Programs and Services Management & Fundraising



Serving the Special Needs and Medically Complex Community

- Down syndrome
- Autism
- Coffin Lowry Syndrome
- Gardner Syndrome
- Dysphasia
- Developmental Delay
- Reynaud's Syndrome
- Cerebral Palsy
- Noncompaction Cardiomyopathy
- Rhett Syndrome
- Trisomy 8
- Absent Corpus Callosum
- ADHD/ADD
- Graves' Disease
- Alopecia
- KAT6A Syndrome
- Chromosomal disorder
- Seizure disorder
- Legally blind



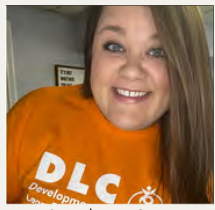
Every day, DLC serves special needs, medically complex, unique abilities, and typically developing children. Listed are some of the diagnoses of the children and families we serve.

- CHARGE Syndrome
- Bilateral neurosensory
- Spina Bifida
- Treacher Collins
- Duodenal Atresia
- Speech/Language Delay
- Hypertonia
- Tibial torsion
- Lipoblastoma
- VACTERL Syndrome
- Colostomy & Pyelostomy
- Hydrocephalus
- Noonan Syndrome
- Hearing loss

DLC 2023-2024 Leadership Team



Heather R. Corey,
Executive Director



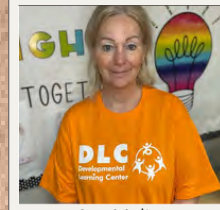
Annalaura Scott,
Chief Programs Officer



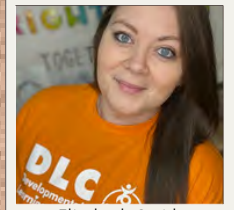
Erin Church,
Finance Director



Carolyn Janzen,
Director of Therapy



Sue Molina,
Director of Nursing



Elizabeth Smith,
Assistant Program Director

***Thank you for your support of Passport to Riverside,
Avondale & Murray Hill in 2023!***



Thank you to Passport 2023 Site Participants



Hope's Garden

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." - Romans 15:13

This past year we were excited to announce the transition of DLC's playground, and it will now be known as Hope's Playground.

The Merritt family, along with Hope's older sisters, transformed a boring playground and entrance way and filled it with beauty, a garden, and new life. Hope's blessings will now live on at DLC forever.

Hope Merritt and her family know firsthand about hope. She was born against all odds - diagnosed with congenital heart disease in utero, survived open heart surgery at 1 month old, born at 5 pounds and diagnosed with chronic lung disease, immune deficiency, epilepsy and intellectual uniqueness. Hope herself is a miracle!

As we prayed over this beautiful garden and playground, we were reassured that hope can change anything and at DLC, all things are possible! Thank you to the Merritt Family for sharing Hope and her smile with DLC's current and future medically complex and special needs children.



Hope Merritt



Heather Corey,
Stacey Merritt, &
Allison Sample



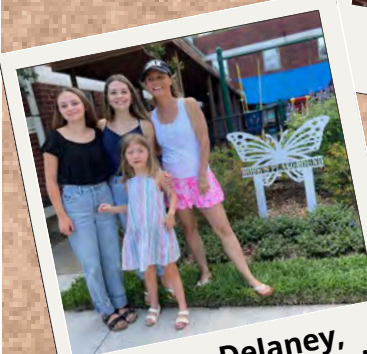
Heather &
Hope



Artist
Emma Merritt



Artist
Delaney Merritt



Emma, Delaney,
Stacey & Hope Merritt



Well Done Good and Faithful Servants

Matthew 25:23

Congratulations to DLC Teacher,
Ms. Aaliyah Gonzalez, being named the DLC
Teacher of the Year 2023-2024.
Way to go on all of your hard work and
dedication to the children of DLC.

Congratulations to Ms. Terri Thomas, DLC
Volunteer of the Year 2023-2024.
Thank you for your commitment to the
DLC Mission and families.



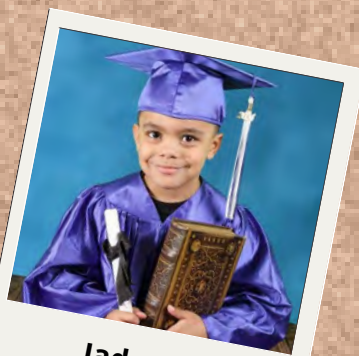
2023-2024 DLC VPK Graduates



Joshua A.



Scarlett C.



Jaden L.



Linda M.



Jack H.

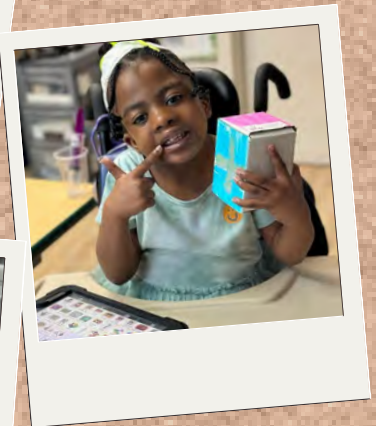
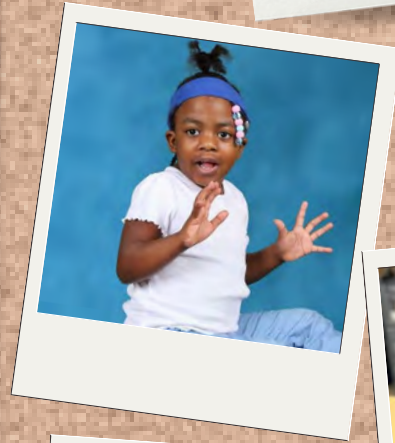


Savannah S.

DLC Graduate Highlights

Meet Linda

Linda began with DLC in 2023. During the time Linda has been with us, she has grown physically, intellectually and socially. When Linda first came to DLC's PPEC program she did not say any words. Linda now says over 10 words verbally, uses her communication device regularly, and her ASL vocabulary has grown exponentially as well. Linda will now respond with "please" and "thank you" often spontaneously. Linda can sign most of the alphabet and she is a matching master. Linda says and signs "happy" every day and she is most happy when playing with her friends. Linda received DLC's Picasso - art award for her love of painting and being creative.



Linda and Stacey Lasonde, DLC Friend & an ASL Instructor



Meet Scarlett

Scarlett joined DLC in February of 2023. Since being in VPK she has improved in her writing skills, language, and self-help skills. The biggest improvement Scarlett attained through her time at DLC is her social skills with her peers. She became the classrooms social butterfly and forever friend to her classmates and teachers. Scarlett's favorite activity in her classroom was to take care of the baby dolls. When Scarlett grows up, she wants to become an Astronaut!





Daniel's Story

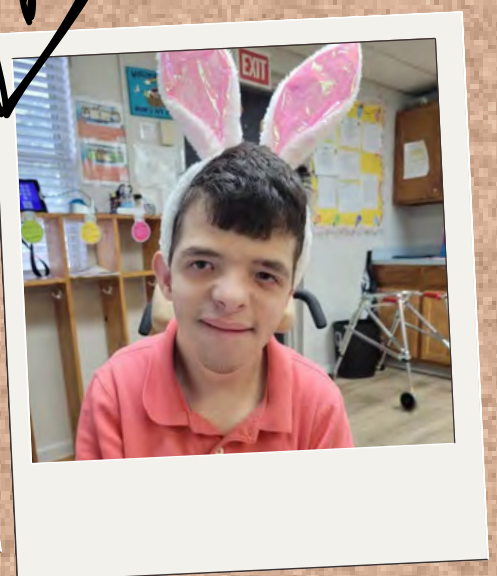
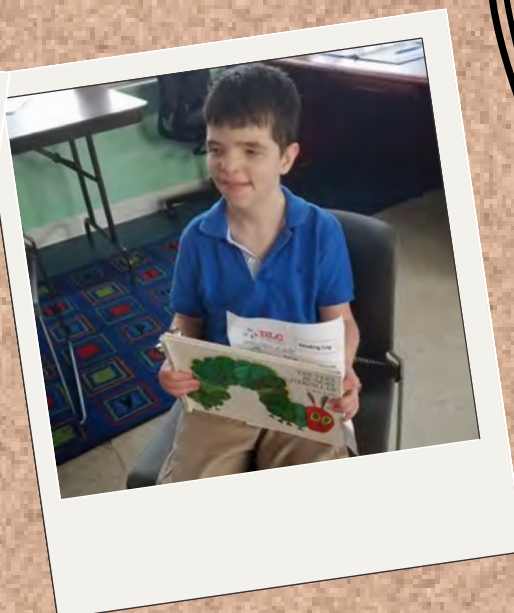


"For the past 17 years, Daniel has been blessed to be part of the DLC family. From his earliest days, the caregivers at DLC have been instrumental in his growth and development. Without their kindness, patience, and incredible skill, Daniel would not be where he is today.

We have come to depend heavily on DLC, not just for after-school care and summer camp, but also for the multiple therapies that Daniel needs to thrive. Every staff member, from the caregivers to the administrators, has Daniel's best interests at heart. They have gone above and beyond to ensure he is nurtured, supported, and loved.

We are forever grateful to DLC for the love and care Daniel has received throughout his life. They are not just a care facility—they are a true family, and we could not imagine Daniel's journey without them."

Bonnie and Shawn McCormick (Daniel's parents)



Digital Upgrade

This past year DLC received a much-needed digital grant to purchase new equipment, improve access to cloud-based programs, and staff training to help improve efficiency and services.

The grant was graciously made available from funds provided by the Jacksonville Children's Endowment at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida.

Developmental Disabilities Month

This past spring DLC celebrated Developmental Disabilities Month (March) by gathering brave friends, colleagues, professionals, and families to celebrate our differences. Thank you to so many who helped us shed light on the resources and support of our special needs community!



Susan Towler,
Florida Blue Foundation,
Executive Director



Mike Buresh, Meteorologist,
Action News



Angel Carro (CEO), Tinesha Byrd,
and **Laurie De La Cruz,**
Early Learning Coalition



Dr. Chanley Dudley,
Carithers Pediatric Group



Dawn Lockhart, CEO,
Nonprofit Center of NE FL



Lori Ann Whittington,
CEO, Pine Castle



Kenneth Darity,
Chief Administrative Officer,
Kids Hope Alliance



Pastor Mike Hudson
CrossRoad Church

DLC Community Partnerships

DLC continues to partner with Brooks Rehabilitation to provide weekly music therapy and monthly art therapy to DLC's students.



Throughout the year, DLC's Physical Therapist and therapy team partners with the Special Olympics for the Young Athlete training program to help keep DLC's students moving and learning about being a part of a team.



Bolles Students "Characters for Care"



501st Squad 7



Woodmen of the World Lodge III



Agape Baptist Church



Amazon Jax 9 Team



Bailey's Medical Equipment



Mustang Club of Jacksonville



Spring Glen Methodist Women of Faith

Where Anything is Possible

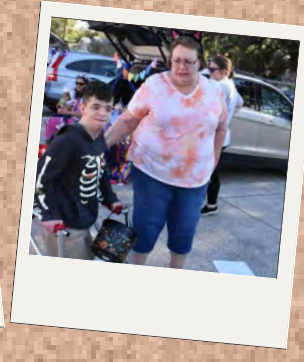
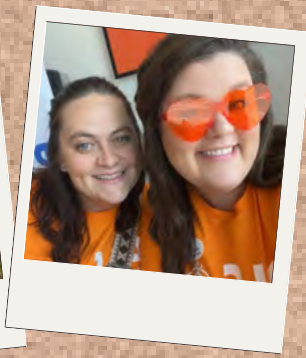
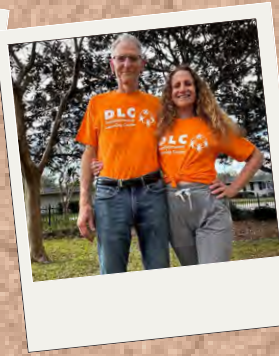


Thank you to our generous donors, grantors, and dedicated supporters for partnering with the Developmental Learning Center throughout this past year. Your commitment has made a lasting impact, fueling innovative programs, individualized support, and meaningful growth for our incredible students. Because of you, we continue to offer a space where children of all abilities are celebrated, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential. We're truly grateful for your belief in our mission and for being a vital part of our community. Together, we're making a difference every day!



THANK YOU!

Thank you to the volunteers, team members, and families who helped make this past year fantastic.



"DLC invest its time into my child. The employees let us know about our daughter's day whether it is good or bad or some things they've noticed out of the ordinary. I don't have to worry if she's wearing her hearing aid or is she up playing and not stuck in a chair all day. I love how the staff interacts with the children." - Parent Testimony



"My daughter comes home every day and tells me how much she loves school and that they do fun things and that she loves coming and learning there." - Parent Testimony



"I know that the staff genuinely cares about my child, and I know that if something were wrong, I would be contacted immediately. I don't hesitate leaving my child in DLC's care which is critical as a working parent!" - Parent Testimony

Get Involved

- Tell DLC's story of hope and miracles
- Make a gift online at www.DLCJAX.org
- Become a monthly donor
- Organize a Lent box collection
- Purchase from DLC's school supply wish list (see the DLC website)
- Set up DLC for your Workplace Giving
- Legacy Giving - leave DLC in your will and estate
- Follow DLC on social media: Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), TikTok, YouTube, LinkedIn
- Volunteer at special events and/or become a classroom reader
- Serve as a DLC Developmental Disability month ambassador (in March)
- DLC onsite clean up - classrooms and playground
- 35th anniversary celebration

Where we need you the most

Prayer! Prayer! Prayer!

Pray for DLC's:

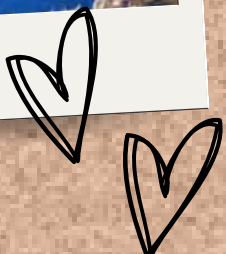
- students
- Families
- Staff
- Funding
- Future students & families
- New opportunities!



For more information, to sign up or any questions, contact Heather Corey at Hcorey@DLCJAX.org or call 904-387-0370



"Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'" - Matthew 19:26





The Developmental Learning Center/DLC
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E-mail: info@DLCJAX.org www.DLCJAX.org

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PPEC License #60081069
EIN #92-0376681



SCAN ME TO
INVEST IN DLC
TODAY

Non-profit org us
postage paid
Jacksonville, FL
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Address Services
Requested

Thank You, Eileen Phelps, for over 15 Years of Dedication to DLC!

The Developmental Learning Center extends a heartfelt thank you to Eileen Phelps for her unwavering dedication and support over the past 15 years. Eileen has been a cornerstone of our community, serving as a member of the DLC Board of Directors, consistently serving our students, and advocating tirelessly for special needs and mental health awareness.

Beyond her leadership, Eileen's generosity shines through in her monthly donations of books for our classrooms, enriching the learning experience for our students. Her financial contributions have also been instrumental in supporting our programs. As a retired nurse, Eileen brings compassion and insight that truly make a difference in the lives of the children and families we serve.

Thank you, Eileen, for being a true champion of our mission and an inspiration to us all!



*Petway Family
Foundation*

The Lucy Gooding Charitable
Foundation Trust



*Jack & Betty Demetree
Family Foundation*